

## Message Text

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43

ACTION OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 OES-03 PM-04

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 COME-00

L-03 INT-05 NSF-01 DODE-00 SAL-01 DLOS-04 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 /066 W  
----- 090198

O R 061814Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8797

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 01978

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCLR, TPHY, AR, FA, UK, PBOR

SUBJECT: R/V THOMPSON RESEARCH CRUISE AND RSS SHACKLETON  
INCIDENT

REF: A) STATE 28283; (B) LONDON 819; (C) LONDON 1376

1. REFTELS B & C GIVE BRITISH VIEWS ON DISPUTE WITH  
ARGENTINA ON SHACKLETON COMMISSION.

2. IN NOVEMBER 1975, WHEN PREPARATIONS FOR COMMISSION  
WERE UNDERWAY, GOA INFORMED BRITISH EMBASSY IN BUENOS  
AIRES THAT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WITHIN TWO HUNDRED MILES  
OF THE COAST OR ON THE ARGENTINE CONTINENTAL SHELF RE-  
QUIRES ARGENTINE AUTHORIZATION. WHEN ARGENTINE DESTROYER  
FIRED ON SHACKLETON LAST WEDNESDAY, THE SHIP WAS OPERAT-  
ING THREE HUNDRED MILES FROM ARGENTINE COAST, BUT LESS  
THAN A HUNDRED MILES SOUTH OF FALKLAND ISLANDS OVER WHICH  
ARGENTINA CLAIMS SOVEREIGNTY. ARGENTINA WOULD THEREFORE  
ASSERT THAT SHACKLETON WAS OPERATING ILLEGALLY IN ARGEN-  
TINE TERRITORIAL WATERS, A CONTENTION WHICH HMG REJECTS.

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3. WE AGREE THAT SHACKLETON INCIDENT IS AN EXPRESSION OF THE UK-GOA FALKLANDS DISPUTE, BUT IT CANNOT BE EASILY SEPARATED FROM ARGENTINE CLAIMS REGARDING RESEARCH IN ITS WATERS. ARGENTINES MAY WISH TO APPEAR CONSISTENT IN THEIR CLAIMS REGARDING RESEARCH IN TERRITORIAL WATERS OR ON CONTINENTAL SHELF, AND THEREFORE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON VESSEL COULD WELL BE AFFECTED.

SPIERS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RESEARCH, SHIPS, CONTINENTAL SHELF, TERRITORIAL WATERS, THOMPSON R/V, SHACKLETON RSS, TWO HUNDRED MILE LIMIT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976LONDON01978  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760046-0414  
**From:** LONDON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 70  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION OFA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 28283, 76 LONDON 819, 76 LONDON 1376  
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**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
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US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** OCLR, TPHY, PBOR, AR, FA, UK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006